

CLUSTER: NUTRITION

The Need The prolonged crisis caused by Yemen's war and now compounded by Covid 19 has caused parts of the country to slide into a famine. Half of Yemeni children under the age of five (U5s) now face acute malnutrition, and 400,000 of these U5s could die without medical intervention. A further 16 million Yemenis are expected to experience hunger this year, with 50,000 already starving to death. While working to rebuild Yemen's agriculture and a sustainable food supply, we have been partnering with organizations in the most devastated parts of the country to provide emergency nutrition assistance to those at high risk of malnutrition and starvation.

YEMEN

Project: Maternal and Child Nutrition

Approach: Relief

Donor: World Food Programme



Many Yemenis who are most at risk of malnutrition and starvation live in remote, difficult-to-reach areas whose access has been further impeded by the war. Vision Hope prioritizes those who are most vulnerable, so the Nutrition Project targets under-nourished children, as well as pregnant and lactating women (PLWs), in challenging areas of Hajjah, al-Mahweet, and Hudaydah Governorates.

By building on relationships with local leaders and Governorate Health Offices (GHOs), Vision Hope expanded the capacity of healthcare facilities (HFs) to treat and prevent moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and severe acute malnutrition (SAM).

Because women are so essential to a community's strength and resilience, half of the local healthcare workers that participated in this project were women. In 2020, 77,407 U5s and 81,132 PLWs received treatment for MAM; additionally, 264,120 U2s and 105,338 PLWs received nutrition assistance.



Hope For Amira

Too weak and hungry to play with other children, 19-month-old Amira had severe anemia as a result of life-threatening malnutrition. Her parents were too poor to take her to a hospital for treatment, but when they realized that their daughter was dying, they took her to a nearby HF in a desperate effort to save her life. Fortunately, Vision Hope had targeted this HF to help young children suffering from MAM, and the HF's staff immediately began caring for the little girl.

Amira received a daily nutritional supplement as part of her treatment, and her condition immediately improved as she began gaining weight and growing. Within three months, she recovered and is now a happy toddler who loves to play and get into mischief. Her parents, who had despaired of her life, are immensely grateful and are raising awareness in their community of childhood MAM.

